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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claim 1 is amended, and supported for example on page 11, lines 9-17 and on page 12 of Applicants' disclosure. No new matter has been added. Claims 1, 8-12, 14, and 16 are pending. Claims 11, 12, 14, and 16 are allowed. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's favorable examination of the claims, and respectfully submit the following comments to address the remaining issue in the case.

Claims 1 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 1 has been amended to include further definition of the performing step, which includes "contacting a sample with an antibody to a prostate-specific antigen." Further, the "determining" step has been revised to include first "measuring the degree of agglutination derived from the antigen-antibody reaction," and then "determining an amount of prostate-specific antigen in the sample based on the degree of agglutination derived from the antigen-antibody reaction." Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 and its dependents are complete and include all essential steps in the method.

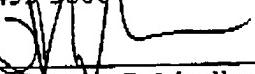
Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the pending claims are in a condition for allowance. Favorable consideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. If any questions arise regarding this communication, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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